

Note these important COVID-19 billing updates for 2022

 pages.azblue.com/Billing-updates-COVID-19-vaccines-and-testing---DEC-2021.html

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Below are some important 2022 billing updates for COVID-19 vaccines and testing. Please pass this information along to your billing team.

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Coming soon! Vaccine billing change for Medicare Advantage plans

Starting January 1, 2022, billing and payment for COVID-19 vaccine administration for Medicare Advantage patients will shift from CMS to Medicare Advantage Plans. Original Medicare will no longer pay these claims. For more information, visit the [CMS page for COVID-19 vaccine billing](#).

For members with Blue Cross[®] Blue Shield[®] of Arizona (BCBSAZ) Medicare Advantage plans, you should submit claims for vaccine administration to BCBSAZ, P3 Health Partners, or Arizona Priority Care (AZPC)—*not* to your CMS Medicare Administrative Contractor. For members with Medicare Advantage plans from other BCBS Plans, submit claims to BCBSAZ.

How to bill for COVID-19 specimen collection

There are several codes for COVID-19 specimen collection, applicable to all lines of business. Each code has a particular set of applicable provider types and places of service. **Effective March 1, 2022**, BCBSAZ will adjudicate claims according to the following CMS and AMA billing guidance:

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| G2023 | For use <i>only</i> by an independent laboratory when staff must visit a patient's home to collect a specimen for COVID-19 testing. |
| G2024 | For use <i>only</i> by an independent laboratory when staff must visit a skilled nursing facility (SNF) or are acting on behalf of a home health agency to collect a specimen for COVID-19 testing. |
| C9803 | For use <i>only</i> by an outpatient hospital department when staff collects a specimen for COVID-19 testing. |
| 99211 | For use by clinical staff (any location) for a minimal patient assessment and/or COVID-19 specimen collection. Be sure to add modifier CS to waive the member cost share (not applicable for other uses of the 99211 code). Note: If you are reporting another evaluation and management (E/M) code for concurrent services, the COVID-19 specimen collection is considered included. |
| 99000-99001 | For use by clinical staff for handling/transfer of a specimen to a laboratory. |

We ask that you share this information with your billing team to avoid claim denials and payment delays. For more information, you can refer to the [CMS testing and payment information](#) and the [AMA coding advice for COVID-19](#).

If you have questions about these billing updates, contact your [provider liaison](#) or call us at 602-864-4231 or 1-800-232-2345, ext. 4231.

Arizona Priority Care and P3 Health Partners are separate, independent companies that provide services to BCBSAZ Medicare Advantage providers and members.

Our members can take a digital ID card with them wherever they go with the MyBlue AZSM mobile app.

